

If everyone saved 20 gallons of water a day, the Southern California region would be protected against severe water shortages this summer – and saving water is easier than you may think. A few simple changes in routine can make a big difference in your water usage.



As much as half of all water use in Santa Monica is spent on landscape irrigation and other outdoor purposes, so make sure you think inside and outside to maximize water savings.

Historic dry conditions, coupled with legal and regulatory constraints on water deliveries to Southern California, make it essential for businesses to consider water efficiency a priority. Implement the following water saving strategies now, and we all save.

Legend
 No cost - Easy to do
 Low cost - More effort required
 Higher cost - Most effort required

Tips for Indoor Water Savings	Estimated Water Savings
▪ Run the dishwasher only when full.	2.5 gallons per load
▪ Turn off water while rinsing dishes.	2.5 gallons per minute
▪ Turn off water while brushing teeth.	2 gallons per minute
▪ Shorten showers.	2.5 gallons per minute
▪ Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket.	2 gallons per flush
▪ Wash only full loads of clothes.	15-50 gallons per load
▪ Fix leaky toilets.	30-50 gallons per day per toilet
▪ Fix leaky faucets.	15-20 gallons per day per leak
▪ Install aerators with flow restrictors on all sink faucets.	5 gallons per day
▪ Replace older, inefficient clothes washers (\$100 rebate available). For rebate information, visit www.smepd.org or call toll-free (866) 728-3229.	20-30 gallons per load
▪ Replace older, high-volume flushing toilets (\$35-\$245 rebate). For rebate information, visit www.smepd.org or call toll-free (866) 728-3229.	2-4 gallons per flush

Information

- For more ideas on how to save water in and around your home, visit www.smepd.org or www.h2ouse.org.
- For rebate information visit, www.smepd.org or call toll-free (866) 728-3229.
- For landscape grant information, visit www.smepd.org/landscape or call toll-free (866) 728-3229.
- For information on water waste due to leaks, visit the WaterWise drip calculator at www.bewaterwise.com.





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Tips for Landscape Water Savings **Estimated Water Savings**

- Water before 6 a.m. and after 10 p.m. to reduce evaporation and wind effect.
 - 1) Reduce each irrigation cycle by 1-3 minutes, or eliminate one irrigation cycle per week. [Create your own custom watering schedule.](#)
 - 2) Water only after the top inch of soil is dry.
 - 3) Reset irrigation controllers and replace batteries in the spring and fall.

- Hand-water with a hose that is equipped with a shut-off nozzle instead of using your automatic sprinkler system. **20-60** gallons per day

- Adjust sprinklers to prevent overspray and runoff. **15-25** gallons per day

- Repair leaks and broken sprinkler heads. **20** gallons per day per leak

- Add 2" to 3" of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation. **20-30** gallons per day per 1,000 sq. ft.

- Install water-efficient drip irrigation system to get water to the plant's roots more efficiently. Grants are available up to \$20,000. Visit www.smeprd.org or call toll-free (866) 728-3229 for details. **20-25** gallons per day

- Upgrade to a "smart" irrigation controller that automatically adjusts watering times for hotter weather and shuts down the system when it rains. For rebate information, visit www.mwdsaveabuck.com or call toll free (877) 728-2282. **40** gallons per day

- Replace a portion of lawn with beautiful native or climate-appropriate plants. **NOTE:** These plants do best when planted after winter rains begin. For great examples, check out www.bewaterwise.com. **33-60** gallons per day per 1,000 sq. ft. depending on climate

Other Outdoor Water Savings Tips **Estimated Water Savings**

- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks. **20** gallons per minute

- Adjust your pressure reducer and keep pressure between 40 and 60 PSI. **Varies**

- Don't leave the hose running while washing your car. Purchase a self-closing shut-off nozzle. **20** gallons per minute

- Take your car to a professional car wash where the water is recycled. **40** gallons

- Repair any leaks around pool and spa pumps. **20** gallons per day per leak

- Repair leaking hose bibs. **15-20** gallons per day per leak

- Install covers on pool and spas to reduce evaporation. **30** gallons per day

